



North Dakota Career & Technical Education  
Wayde Sick, Director  
Mark Wagner, Assistant Director

March 2021

# Newsletter

## Brenda Schuler Retires after 30 Years with CTE

Brenda Schuler started working with State of North Dakota and as the Administrative Officer for Vocational Education over 30 years ago. Brenda has seen many changes in the past 30 years including working for five different CTE Directors, a name change and logo change from Vocational and Technical Education (VTE) to Career and Technical Education (CTE) and a change in many staff members over the years.

Director Wayde Sick has worked with Brenda the past three years and said, "I would like to personally thank Brenda for her commitment to Career and Technical Education. In her 30 plus years with NDCTE she has assisted five different state directors.

The CTE department staff and the State Board for Career and Technical Education wish her well as she starts a new chapter in her life. Happy retirement Brenda. You will be missed."



## FFA Foundation Announces New Staff Member



The North Dakota FFA Foundation (ND FFA Foundation) announces Kayla Hart as its program coordinator & administrative assistant. Hart began her new role on February 8th and will serve the Foundation from its Bismarck office. Hart will work alongside Beth Allen, Executive Director of the ND FFA Foundation.

Hart, a 2019 North Dakota State University (NDSU) graduate, studied animal science and agribusiness. An alumna member of the Fessenden-Bowdon FFA Chapter, the North Dakota FFA is an organization Hart is already familiar with and knows well. "As a former member of the North Dakota FFA, I look forward to facilitating opportunities for current members to have the same incredible experiences I had in my time as a member," says Hart. "Knowing and being familiar with its mission, combined with my experiences, is what's going to make my time with the Foundation the most exciting."

## Dates of Interest

### March 3, 2021

ND Legislature Reconvenes  
from Crossover Break

### March 12, 2021

Crossover Date for  
Resolutions

### March 20, 2021

First Day of Spring

### April 2, 2021

State Holiday

### May 4, 2021

Legislative Session limited  
to 80 days

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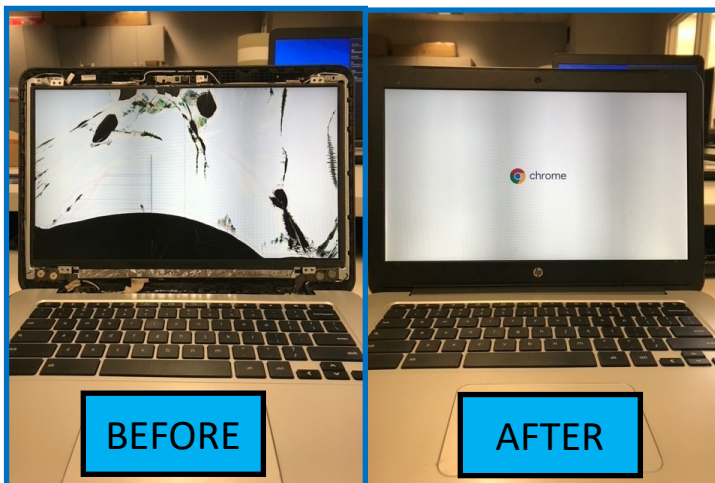
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## Authenticated Learning Continues During Covid-19 Pandemic

### FACS Students Refurbish Furniture That Has Been Donated

The Housing and Interior Design students at Legacy High School are looking for quality furniture pieces to repurpose. The students will be holding their very own Flea Market Flip here at Legacy in the spring. Students will repurpose old pieces and then sell them. The money that is received will go back into the FACS department. The photo shows the before and after photos of their great work. If you have some furniture to donate you can contact Erin Rainey at Bismarck Legacy High School.



### IT Students Repair Chromebooks That Have Been Damaged

The Century High School IT interns have their hands full with chromebook repairs. When chromebooks are dropped or something just isn't working right, they are brought to the IT department to be fixed by the students. "A common fix that comes in are screen repairs," says Reno, one of the interns. This is a before and after picture showing a broken screen and when it is repaired." Each school has IT interns; some are received an IT Credit and some are hired and paid.

### Sheyenne Valley Area CTC Students Create Vehicle Graphics

Students at the Sheyenne Valley Area Career and Technology Center had the opportunity to learn about creating and installing vehicle graphics this fall. They treated this project as a "job" from start to finish. They each had the opportunity to take the order, design it based on the customer request and then complete the order by doing the install themselves. Projects like these offer a view of the process that their computer screens will not provide.



WORK-BASED LEARNING

# State Director's Column

-Wayde Sick, Director, North Dakota Career and Technical Education

## 2021 Legislative Update

I have heard many times the best way to explain the North Dakota Legislative Session is to compare it to a hockey game. We have finished the first period, with the House and Senate adjourning for Crossover. This is the point in our session when all bills need to be acted upon in their originating chamber.



The second period starts on March 3, 2021 when the Legislature returns from their Crossover Recess, and concludes on April 7<sup>th</sup> when all bills must be reported out of committee in the second chamber. The third period is the exciting time between that date and when the session ends. During this period, Conference Committees meet to iron out any differences between House and Senate bill versions. The Legislative Session ends once all bills are agreed upon, but the session is limited to 80 days, according to the North Dakota State Constitution. There has been a lot of activity during the first period.

Here are a few highlights that directly impact North Dakota Career and Technical Education:

- The Senate passed SB2019 or the Department of Career and Technical Education Appropriations bill. The Senate version held CTE funding whole, with increases of \$1.5 million for cost to continue and \$1 million for new and expanding CTE programs. The Senate also included \$45 million for the expansion of new Career and Technical Education Centers.
- The House passed HB1430 which would provide a student, who is pursuing education at one the state's community or tribal colleges, the full \$6000 CTE or Academic Scholarship by disbursing \$1500 a semester instead of \$750.
- The House also passed HB1375 that provides a tuition scholarship for students taking dual-credit courses while in high school.

These bills, as well as all the other bills that passed in the first chamber, now need to be acted upon and approved by the second chamber to become law.

To review any bills being acted upon in the 67<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly, including video and submitted testimony, please visit the North Dakota Legislative Branch website link below.

[67th Legislative Assembly | North Dakota Legislative Branch \(nd.gov\)](https://www.nd.gov/legislative-branch)

Check out our website at [www.cte.nd.gov](http://www.cte.nd.gov)

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Wayde Sick

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State Director

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North Dakota CTE

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### ***CTSO Conferences in North Dakota scheduled the spring of 2021***

*March 14-15  
DECA, In Person*

*March 16  
DECA, Virtual Awards*

*March 22-23  
Collegiate DECA, In Person*

*March 22-23  
TSA, In Person*

*March 29-April 1  
FBLA, Virtual*

*April 10-11  
PBL, Virtual*

*April 11-12  
FCCLA, In Person*

*April 1-16  
Skills USA, Virtual Contests*

*April 19  
Skills USA, In Person*

*June 7-10  
FFA, In Person*



## Tool Used for Program Improvement: NQPS

- Submitted by Aaron Anderson, Supervisor, Agricultural Education

Every year CTE program staff find themselves in countless schools and classrooms across the state. Many of these visits are for the required five-year program evaluation. The thought of having one of the CTE staff in your classroom for an evaluation could create anxiety, but it shouldn't. We are there to help you identify your program's strengths and weaknesses with hopes you will be able to increase your educational impact.

When doing our evaluations, we are not counting the number of CTSO plaques on your classroom wall or the number of grades you have in your grade book. We utilize the twelve standards approved by the State Board of CTE to dive in and unpack all aspects of your program. While these standards give us staff guidance on what to review, sometimes you as an educator or school administrator are confused about the specific objectives within that standard that outline quality CTE programming. To help alleviate that confusion, the agricultural education division at CTE has implemented a tool for all agricultural education programs to use.

The National Quality Program Standards for Secondary Agricultural Education (NQPS) is that tool that provides a set of clear standards that include everything from facilities, to curriculum, to leadership, marketing, and everything in between. It encompasses all of the ND CTE standards and more. While this tool was designed for agricultural education, virtually all CTE programs could find value in reviewing it.

How it works is the instructor should access the electronic survey along with other stakeholders to complete a self-evaluation of the entire program. The built-in rubric has quality indicators for various aspects of the program with specific artifacts/suggested evidence that should be observed to rate the performance from Not at Expectation, Approaching Expectation, Meets Expectation, Exceeds Expectations and Exemplary. After you complete each of the standards it will give you a level of performance score. This score will help you to identify gaps in the programs and areas you should focus on improving. Continuous improvement should be a goal of all CTE programs, and this tool helps focus your targets with clear objectives. It also proves valuable for those not as familiar with agricultural education and CTE, in what makes a quality program.



***Do you know which way your program should go to reach success?***

The NQPS even provides a program growth target planning guide to help you identify, prioritize and organize growth targets into a manageable plan. We encourage programs to focus on three targets annually with the hope that all standards will eventually meet or exceed the outlined expectations. While all of this may sound like a daunting task, it really isn't. Spending those few initial hours with your advisory committee, administration, and other key stakeholders completing the assessment tool will prove to be so valuable in providing the high-quality CTE programming your students and community deserve.

To find out more about the NQPS and review the tool, you can visit <https://thecouncil.ffa.org/program-standards-tool/>

## ACTE's Innovation Webinar Series Available

- Submitted by Carla Hixson, NDACTE Executive Director

### ACTE's Innovation Webinar Series available to entire CTE Community

While ACTE's online seminars are generally available to members only as a professional development resource, they are making these resources available, at least until May 31, to the entire CTE community due to COVID-19. The following ACTE 60 minute webinars are free of charge.

#### Innovation Through Virtual Fundraising on March 4 at 2:00 p.m. CT

Prior to COVID-19, many students participated in fundraising opportunities in-person to support student lead activities. This webinar will discuss successful tools and strategies to implement new virtual fundraising efforts. Please bring your own successful virtual fundraising implementation ideas so educators can all be at the forefront of what works best to support virtual fundraising activities.

#### Cooking with Canvas on April 8 at 3:00 p.m. CT

This webinar examines how the Yuma Union High School District (YUHSD) uses Canvas to enhance instruction in the CTE classroom, as well as ensure students can practice proficiency of state standards when absent from school. The YUHSD utilizes Canvas to create a high functioning PLC that can constantly collaborate regardless of location. This session will provide the materials to get started if you currently use Canvas, and teachers could apply the same theories to other learning management systems or Google

Classroom. The webinar will use Culinary Arts as the primary example but could be applied to any CTE program area.

#### Innovative Connections: Stem + CTE at Home or School on May 4 at 3:00 p.m. CT

This session will introduce the connections between CTE and Science Olympiad. Science Olympiad's MY SO program allows teachers, parents and students to access a variety of hands-on CTE experiences from home or school and sets students on a path of post-secondary and career discovery.

#### Pivoting to Practice: Making Your Work-based Learning Experiences Meaningful on June 8 at 1:00 p.m. CT

In this webinar you will be prompted to think about what we show students our careers look like, how to break down the complex activities of our careers into nameable and manageable parts, and how to give students safe and structured opportunities to try career practices out for themselves.

Register at: [www.acteonline.org/professional-development/online-learning/online-seminars/](http://www.acteonline.org/professional-development/online-learning/online-seminars/)

You are also able to watch the following webinars with access to chats and slides.

Previewing the New Administration and 117th Congress:

- Federal Policy Implications for CTE in 2021
- Innovative Strategies for Virtual Learning to Engage Students
- Delivering Real-World Experiences Webinar

## CTSO Leadership Perspective

In my junior and senior years I took both marketing and management. These classes opened up so many opportunities to meet new people and create new pathways once I graduate. The skills I learned in the classroom can be used in all workplaces. These classes allowed me to be a part of DECA, serving as an officer, developing teamwork and leadership, while networking with business people. Marketing and DECA have helped me become the person I am today.

*Garrett Elwood, senior at Minot High School, serves as Vice President for North Dakota DECA. He has been an active member of DECA and FBLA for two years.*



## Exciting Updates in RUReady.ND.gov

-Submitted by Julie Hersch, Career Resource Network Supervisor

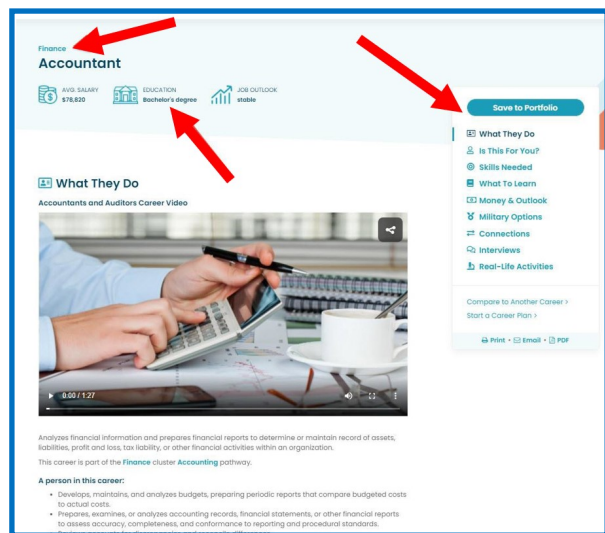
[RUReady.ND.gov](http://RUReady.ND.gov) is a web-based career information delivery system that includes resources for Career Planning, High School and College Planning, and Financial Aid. Students can develop an electronic portfolio of career exploration and planning activities.

Under the Career Planning tab students can discover their interests, skills and work values, search for careers that match who they are, and prepare for a job search. Students can use the career exploration tools to browse a list of careers and explore Career Profiles that match them. Counselors, teachers and other career development professionals can also use the Career Profiles as a starting point to guide students in their career searches.

Recent updates include a change to the **Career Profiles** which have been redesigned with a fresh new look and feel and an improved layout so they're easier to review and navigate.

Career cluster, average salary, education level, and job outlook information has been added at the top of the page (when available).

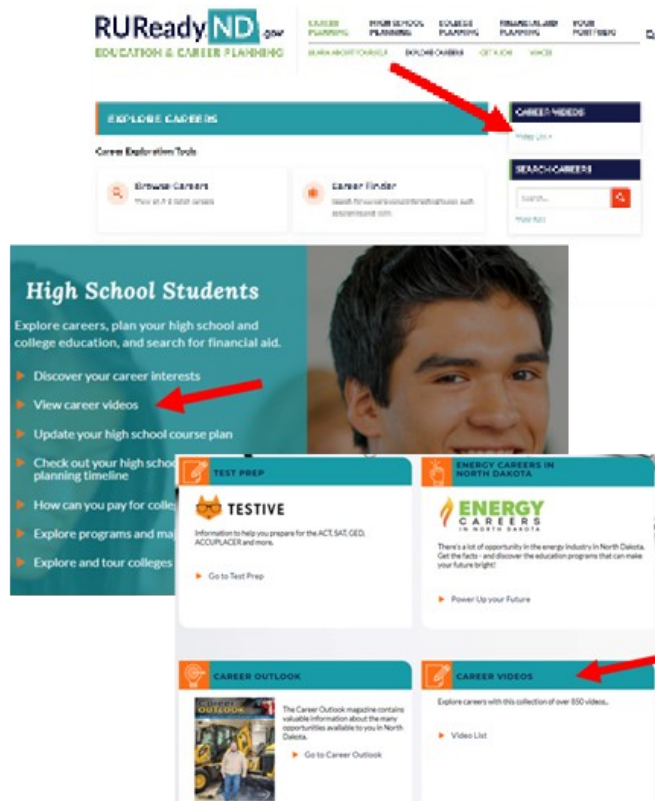
The **links** to move through the sections of each Career Profile have been **moved to the right side** of every section – and the links move down the page as the student reviews the content.



'Add to Portfolio' has been changed to '**Save to Portfolio**'.

The '**What They Do**' section has been redesigned. In the '**Is This for You**' section new icons have been added illustrating a student's interests (from the Interest Profiler results) and work values (from the Work Values Sorter).

New icons have also been added in the '**Real-Life Activities**' section (when available).



Another update is the addition of multiple ways to access the page that contains RUReady.ND.gov's **871 Career Videos**. Students can access the Career Video list from the main page where a link can be found under **High School Student** called '**View Career Videos**' or by scrolling down to a new badge called '**Career Videos**'. Another new badge can be found by clicking on **Career Planning** then **Explore Careers**.

These options will enable students to have easier access to the career videos that showcase careers. And each career title links the user to the full career profile.

For more information contact Julie Hersch, North Dakota Career Resource Network Supervisor for Career and Technical Education at [juhersch@nd.gov](mailto:juhersch@nd.gov).

### North Dakota Career & Technical Education



*Mark Wagner, Assistant Director,  
North Dakota Career and Technical  
Education*

### Mission of CTE

The mission of the State Board for Career and Technical Education is to work with others to provide all North Dakota citizens with the technical skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for successful performance in a globally competitive workplace.

### North Dakota SLDS and Data Dashboards

Career Technical Education (CTE) stakeholders — including families, employers, and local practitioners at the secondary and postsecondary levels — need access to relevant and timely data to make informed decisions when it matters.

North Dakota has created a statewide longitudinal data system (SLDS) that feeds data into public and internal data dashboards daily. These data dashboards provide stakeholders with timely information that they can use to make important education, career, and policy decisions.

In 2007, the North Dakota Legislature authorized the creation of an SLDS Committee for the purpose of creating and managing the state's SLDS, which connects a series of secured public education and workforce training data warehouses. The purpose of the SLDS is to provide stakeholders with data on the education and workforce outcomes of learners in the state. The SLDS pulls data from each of North Dakota's K-12 institutions daily through PowerSchool, a data management system that all public school districts use to collect data on attendance, grades, and other metrics. North Dakota's postsecondary institutions also upload their data to the state's SLDS, allowing for linkages between the K-12 and postsecondary sectors. The SLDS currently includes data on K-12 student demographics, attendance and enrollment, assessment performance, CTE participation, graduation and dropout rates, historical grades and college and career readiness. The SLDS also includes postsecondary data on student enrollment, courses, performance, demographics, and graduation rates. Workforce data such as wage and employment information is entered into the SLDS by Job Service North Dakota, the state's workforce development agency. North Dakota's SLDS also collects data on CTE participation, concentration, and completion rates along with credential attainment. Soon, the SLDS will include data on work-based learning completion.

Through a public dashboard tool called Insights, policymakers, agencies, researchers, and the public can access data on preparation and outcomes for education and workforce training programs and use that data to make informed decisions. Examples of reports and data that users can explore on Insights include the demand for a particular occupation, the average salary of that occupation, the CTE program of study that could lead to a career in that occupation, and which institutions offer that program. The SLDS also provides data to the North Dakota Education Portal, a set of dashboards available to public school teachers and administrators that provide information on metrics such as predicted learner outcomes, high school and college readiness and historical learner data.

Insights has become a widely used tool in the state. School districts also use Insights to fulfill mandatory accountability requirements, regularly directing parents to the public-facing data dashboard. The SLDS also provides data, disaggregated by Career Cluster, to school districts to support their Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment, which is required by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V). School districts use the data to look for opportunity gaps and strengths and to determine potential uses of Perkins V funds.

To equip stakeholders, including local CTE practitioners, to make data-informed decisions the SLDS and its data dashboards is a system that can provide data to stakeholders at all levels, whether it is providing learners high school transcripts and assisting them to complete college applications, supporting practitioners by analyzing risk indicators to inform classroom-based intervention, or helping districts with their CLNA.